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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

SUBJECT

Trieste

Contraband Traffic between

Sones A and B

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- Between the roadblocks of Albaro Vescova and Punta Rossa, along the border between the Anglo-American and Yugoslav Zones of the Free Territory of Trieste, there has been a notable increase of contraband goods passing into Zone B. Between the southeast road blocks, at which permanent Venezia Guilia guard posts are situated, there are seven secondary roads and trails leading into Zone B, which are covered only by roving patrols of the Venezia Guilia Police on the Anglo-American side of the border, and by permanent detachments of the Popular Militia on the Yugoslav side. In addition, there is the new Muggia - S. Barbara - Elleri road where this traffic is especially well organized with the assistance of the Popular Militia, which apparently has orders to permit entry of contraband goods into Zone B but to tolerate no traffic in the other direction.
- The goods to be taken across the border are packed in cases and brought by truck from Trieste to specific points along the frontier to await an opportune moment when the Venezia Guilia patrols are absent. In certain cases, the trucks themselves are dwin across and unloaded directly in Zone B. Many cases of goods ultimately arrive at the military warehouse in Piazza da Ponte (formerly Piazza Corva) in Capodistria, whence they are sent by officials to the interior of Yugoslavia. Although exorbitant prices in lire are paid for these goods, and much is often stolen by the men who transport them across the border, this nowise serves to deter the traffic because of the great demand for consumer goods in Yugoslavia.
- The greater part of such merchandise consists of cloth, wearing a parel, shoes and leather goods, small amounts of nylon stockings, cosmetics and perfumes. In one instance, leather fleece-lined jackets, made in Yugoslavia and exported to Italy, were sent back across the border as contraband.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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